

**From:** Kelley Jones  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/15/02 1:28pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement.

I am not a lawyer, an activist, nor am I exceptionally well informed as to the specifics of the proposed settlement between the Department of Justice and Microsoft. However I would urge those involved on the government side of this case to settle quickly and with as little punitive action towards Microsoft as possible.

My feelings are that Microsoft is very successful because they sell something that many consumers and businesses want, not because they are evil or unlawful. In nature diversity is good and in our capitalistic system, competition is good. When one entity is successful they should not be punished to protect those that were not as successful.

I believe that this case is more about protecting the competitors of Microsoft rather than the consumers.

It is good to have many companies supplying cars, appliances and even computers. It is not necessarily good to have many sources of the standards that allows them to operate. Imagine if each washing machine had different power requirements, different plumbing attachments etc. The cost to install and operate any one would be higher. Microsoft is supplying a base standard that is allowing people and companies to communicate in ways that would be simply impossible if it were not for the consistency in operating systems and office utilities that microsoft provides.

Our economy is struggling to overcome a number of negative factors. Please do not add another by drawing out this senseless process.

Thank you for considering my opinion,

Kelley Jones  
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